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hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being trached or enclosed) is being deposited with The United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to The Assistant Commissioner for Patents. Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 24, 2001.

H)

Richard J. Streit

Name

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CU-2605

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

John CANNING et al.

SERIAL NO:

09/890,698

) Group Art Unit:

FILED:

August 3, 2001

) Examiner:

TITLE:

LASER ABLATION OF WAVEGUIDE STRUCTURES

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JAN 1.5 2002

TC 1700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant submits the following preliminary amendment in the aboveidentified application. Applicant believes this Preliminary Amendment puts the application in better condition for allowance. Applicant's remarks are attached hereto and start on page 2.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please <u>replace</u> the indicated paragraphs with the attached clean version of the replacement paragraphs attached hereto.

Please see a <u>marked-up</u> version of the amended specification paragraph attached hereto to aid the Examiner in identification of changes.